## IDAHO COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, April 24, 2008 10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Committee Members: James Steed (Chair), Jim Baugh, Shiloh Blackburn, Leslie Clement, Corinne Johnson, Bill Elvey, Lisa Robbe

COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES	
Public Policy Committee Meeting	
April 24, 2008	
Time: 10:45am to 12:00pm	
Call to Order –	James Steed called the meeting to order.
Opening Statements	
Roll Call	Members Present: James Steed (Chair), Shiloh
	Blackburn, Corinne Johnson, Jim Baugh, Leslie
	Clement, Lisa Robbe
	Staff present: Tracy Warren, Christine Pisani
	Members Absent: Bill Elvey
Perfection of Agenda/	There were no changes to the agenda.
Announcements	
Approval of January	Jim Baugh moved for Unanimous Consent to
2008 Minutes	accept minutes for January 2008.
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session affected most if not all, legislative decisions through the rest of the session. Legislators were very focused on not having enough money to cover projects or fund agency budgets. JFAC looked for ways to meet budget restrictions and was less likely to approve expenditures this session.

The legislature approved funding for substance abuse programs, overturning a veto by Governor Otter. The Governor wants more data to show good outcomes from substance abuse treatment because sometimes programs are rolled out, but they don't do a good job of documenting evidence of treatment outcomes. James Steed commented that he wished the Governor would do the same for extended employment services.

Jim Baugh said that there have been changes in the Governor's staff who are appointed to our issues, which makes it more difficult for us to advocate our positions to his office.

This year, legislative leadership exercised more control over what issues were going to be considered or not. Many bills did not get a hearing in committee.

Council staff worked on the Idaho State School and Hospital (ISSH) changes issue, speaking with many different legislators and proposing intent language, but with little effect on the final outcome.

Idaho State School and Hospital – proposed changes

Leslie Clement reported that two private entities want to provide some kind of housing in the community, perhaps an alternative to state institutional care. She does not have the details at this time.

Leslie also reported that Medicaid has it on their radar to monitor discharges from ISSH, access if there are needed resources in the community,

and determine what kind of reimbursement methodologies are needed. It is not that the services cost more at ISSH, but the overhead and infrastructure is expensive. The biggest challenges are to meet behavioral health needs in the community. There is a need to determine which agency has responsibility to meet the needs of persons with dual diagnosis.

Jim Baugh said that the intent language drafted to address the changes at ISSH would have directed the Department of Health and Welfare to look at community alternatives to building and remodeling at the ISSH facility. It asked them to measure all possible alternatives first. He also mentioned that JFAC doesn't really understand what developmental disability services are and most legislators do not understand what supported living is either - some education is needed.

Leslie Clement said that we need to do a better job of describing what services are and how people benefit, going beyond a philosophical explanation.

## **New Issues for Consideration**

New Issues/input from members

Position Statement on Aversives.

The Committee reviewed the draft position statement on aversives. Jim Baugh suggested some changes:

- In the 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph change "behavior" to "behavioral" and take out the words "negative behavior management techniques or."
- Middle of the second page replace "all or some of" with "any of" so that the line reads: "the Council feels that aversive procedures with any of the following characteristics should be eliminated:"

Leslie Clement suggested we think about how

we use the position statement – to educate, to define how we get involved?

Jim Baugh said that we could refer to this position as we address policy to be developed or that is proposed.

Corrine Johnson said that people, and especially parents, could refer to this on our website to build awareness.

Corrine Johnson moved that the committee recommend the position statement on aversives to the full Council with the changes recommended.

Shiloh seconded the motion.

Motion passed.

The committee discussed recent conversations about possible changes to policy regarding self-directed health care and end of life decisions.

Jim Baugh explained some of the issues related to health care decisions:

Sometimes people with disabilities want surgery but their consent is not accepted by hospital staff. Sometimes people don't agree with a certain procedure and don't understand.

Jim said that he and his son Gabe have experienced an improved hospital admissions process since the discussions with hospital associations and other organizations have taken place.

Sometimes hospice care staff have refused to admit people with developmental disabilities because they misunderstand the policies around "full code" (what to do when a person's heart has stopped beating). They believe that a person with DD must have full code (do everything to revive the person) and don't understand that they could have other

Action ⇒

**Health Care Decisions** 

	agreements in place.
	Leslie Clement asked about who monitors consent procedures. Jim said that the accrediting entity that monitors the hospital. They don't have real authority but could affect Medicaid reimbursement for that facility.
	The committee decided to work on a position statement regarding health care decisions soon. James Steed, Jo Garrison, Jim Baugh volunteered to work on this.
	Action Items
	Draft position statement on health care decisions. James Steed, Jo Garrison, Jim Baugh volunteered to work on this.
	<u>Future Agenda Items</u>
	Report on status of secure mental health facility.
Adjourned	There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:10pm.